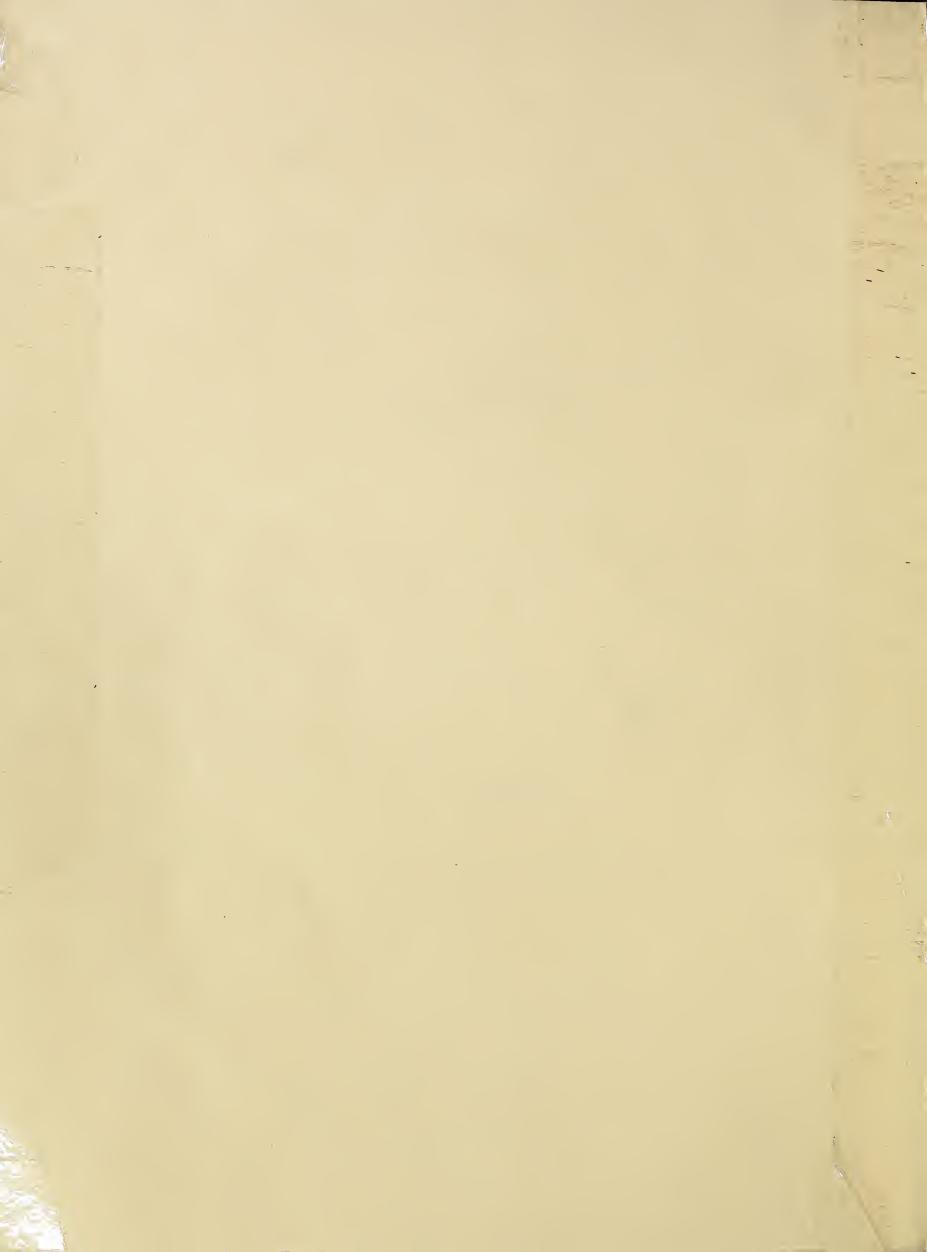
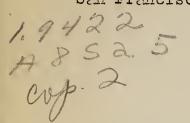
## **Historic, Archive Document**

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April 2, 1946



San Francisco Wholesale Markets
USDA FOOD BULLETIN
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

SEP 30 PAS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ADRIQUETURE.

#### DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - With fluid milk and cream taking a high percentage of the increasing milk supply, butter was at an all time low for March. The supply is still very light, but general opinion is that butter will become more plentiful with the advent of the usual normal gain in milk production during April, May and June.

Eggs - Not much change on the egg market. Production and supplies have been increasing, with top grades moving into storage. Demand is good. Prices remain at: Grade A Large  $40\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , Mediums  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , Smalls  $33\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , and Grade B Large  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

Poultry - The supply of live poultry coming to market has been rather light, thus making fresh dressed poultry supplies light on the market. This coupled with a tight meat situation has stimulated demand for storage stocks. Live broilers, fryers, reasters, and both Leghern and colored fowl have advanced up to or near ceiling prices, but there are sufficient supplies of fowl 32 pounds and over.

#### MIAT

Beef - Although more cattle came to market this week, consumer demand for beef slackened as a result of prolonged labor stoppages, some dealers believe. With more grass fed cattle on the market, the quality of beef is mostly Commercial to Good grade.

Lamb - The number of sheep and lambs arriving on the market was less than half as many as for the previous week. Rains curtailed the receipts of spring lambs, although they made up the bulk of total receipts. Demand was slow for all classes.

Pork - Hog supplies were larger this past week with demand good for all cuts of pork. Sliced packaged bacon and smoked hams were in more liberal supply, too.

#### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

The yellow and green of <u>grapefruit</u> and <u>avocados</u> are fruit basket colors these days, since these are the only two fruits in moderate supply, with prices unchanged.

<u>Lomonettes</u> are the next best buy. <u>Oranges</u>, <u>apples</u> and <u>pears</u> are all scarce at ceiling prices.

Potatoes are the best vegetable buy with Alameda County strawberry rhubarb running second choice with supplies heavier and price lower. Fair buys this week are:

Cauliflower, higher but better quality, lettuce with ceiling price down, peas in heavier supply and lower priced, spinach though a little higher, and Italian squash.

Artichokes are higher with supplies lighter. Bad weather has prevented cutting of asparagus in valleys so that supply is below normal though some heavier than last week; price is down. Broccoli is getting scarce and high. Moderate supplies of cabbage are higher. Celery supplies are lighter, price little lower. Sweet potatoes are fairly scarce at ceiling. Mexican tomatoes are in better supply and quality at ceiling. Ceiling price on onions is up and they are scarce.

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San Francisco Wholesale Markets
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#### DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - Butterfat continues to be diverted into channels other than butter making, with the result that <u>butter</u> production is at a 25-year low. Supplies are far short of demand. Some consumer relief to this critical situation is seen with better supplies of margarine appearing on the market.

Eggs - There's no need for any one to do without his breakfast egg these days. Egg production continues on the increase, with liberal supplies, especially the small sizes, in retail outlets. Prices remain unchanged at: Grade A Large  $40\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , Mediums  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , Smalls  $33\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , and Grade B Large  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ . Top grades are moving into storage at an above normal rate.

Poultry - With large reserves of cold storage stocks on the market at the beginning of this week, the market was not quite as firm as it has been. Live prices on small sized Leghorn hens dropped 2¢ as a result of less demand and larger receipts. All classes of young chickens and winter packed young tom turkeys are in strong demand with an advance of 1¢ on the turkeys.

#### TAEM

Beef - With an in-between, wind-up fed season on cattle and the beginning of grass fat cattle season, fewer beef were slaughtered this week. Demand was good for the general run of quality ranging Commercial to Good.

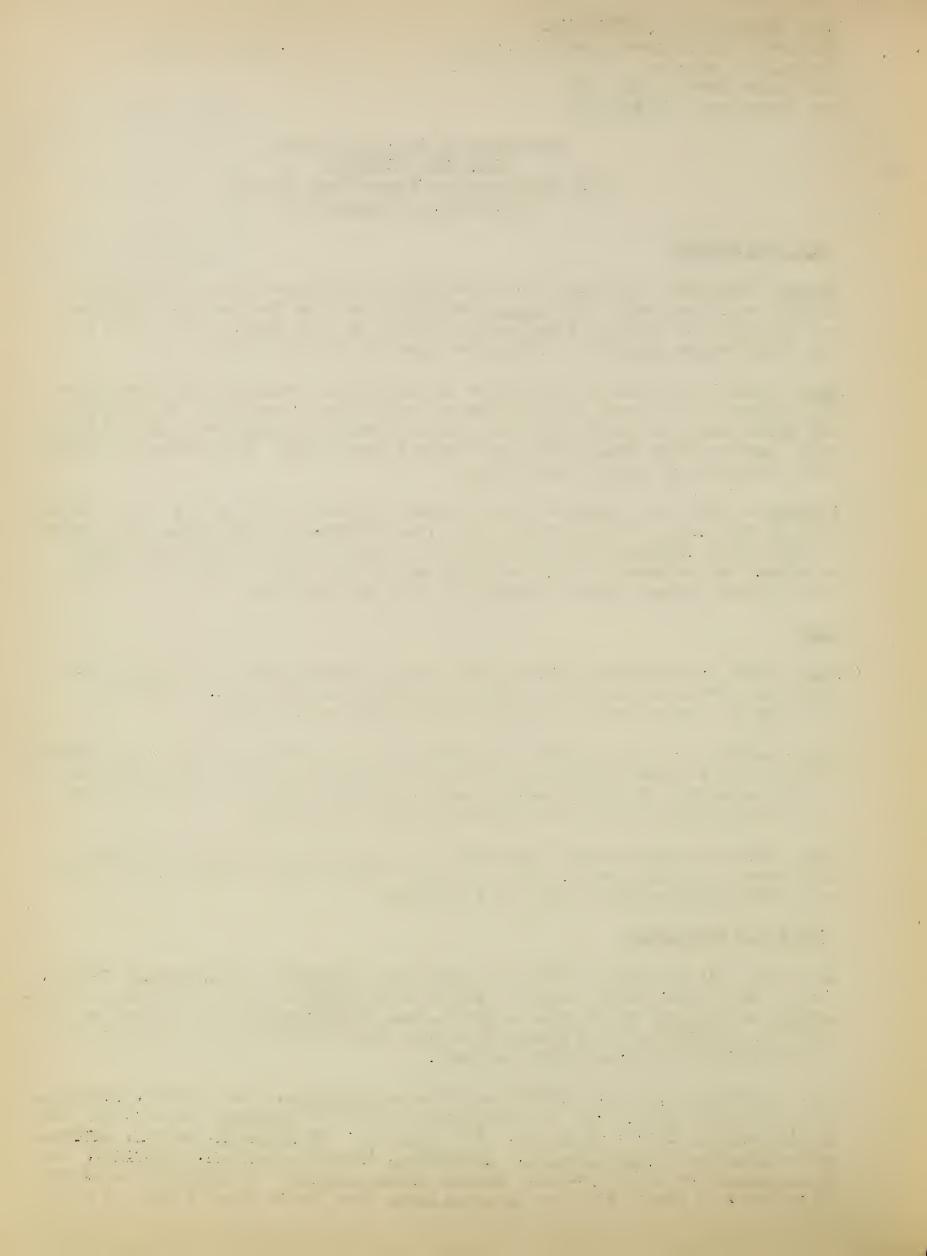
Lamb - Although the sheep kill as a whole was less this week, there was a liberal slaughter of old-crop lamb in an effort to end their season and make way for heavier slaughter of spring lambs. Good to Choice lambs were in good demand, while demand was less for other classes of lamb and mutton.

Pork - The hog slaughter was less this week, but moderate amounts of fresh pork moved on a good demand. There was more sliced bacon available, along with more smoked hams appearing in retail channels.

#### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Although a little higher priced than last week, avocados and grapefruit remain the two best fruit buys. Moderate supplies of lemons remain at unchanged prices. Apples and oranges are scarce. A few Salinas strawberries have appeared on the market, an indication that Spring is really here and that we can look for more plentiful fruit supplies before too long.

Best vegetable buys are: Heavier supplies of <u>asparagus</u>, lower priced, <u>potatoes</u>, with new ones a little cheaper, plentiful supplies of <u>rhubarb</u>, quite cheap, and <u>Italian squash</u>, fairly cheap now. Fair buys are: <u>Cauliflower</u>, <u>celery</u>, <u>lettuce</u>, <u>peas</u>, <u>spinach</u> and <u>summer squash</u>. <u>Artichokes</u>, <u>broccoli</u>, <u>cabbage</u>, <u>mushrooms</u>, and <u>Bell peppers</u> is higher priced. <u>Onions</u>, <u>sweet potatoes</u> and <u>tonatoes</u> are scarce at ceiling. A luxury item are <u>hothouse beans</u> from Contra Costa county at high price.



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San Francisco Wholesale Markets

USDA FOOD BULLETIN

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#### DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - Supplies in retail outlets remain far short of demand. Production gain is being rapidly absorbed, for the most part, in producing centers, where Pacific Coast and Inter-mountain states showed a 5% increase this last week. The peak of production is expected to be reached in June.

Eggs - The supply is good with production now almost equal to the 1945 record. Then, too, a larger volume of eggs has been moving into storage for civilian use. We change in prices: Grade A Large  $40\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , Mediums  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , Smalls  $33\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , and Grade B Large  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

Poultry - Over the end of the week, the market saw liberal supplies of live poultry, but the supply of young chickens (broilers, fryers and roasters) was insufficient to meet pre-Easter demands. Leghorn hens are in good supply at prices 2 to  $3\phi$  lower. With demand good for turkeys, old hen turkeys advanced to bring  $36\frac{1}{2}$  to  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$  at San Francisco.

#### MEAT

Beef - The supply of beef this week was some better as the result of more grass fat cattle coming to market and the discontinuance of set-aside requirements on Good and Choice grades for the military. Grades ranged from Commercial to Choice with Commercial and Utility cow meat in good supply. Demand was good for Good grade cuts of steer meat.

Lamb - An encouraging note for the Easter season is found in looking at the liberal supply of spring lambs now on the market. Good and Choice grades are in good demand. Commercial to Utility grade old-crop lambs are now practically absent from the market.

Fork - A look at the hog market shows us that there has been a decline in claughter, with fresh pork supplies below demand. Sliced, package bacon is in better supply, but smoked hams are in light supply.

### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

The fruit basket color scheme for this week is green with avocades the best buy at slightly lower prices and in fairly heavy supply. Grapefruit are in moderate supply at higher prices, while oranges are scarce. Increasing quantities of single-baries are appearing on the market, but the supply is still light and the price high.

Accorages heads the list of good vegetable buys, with supplies quite heavy and the price about as cheap as it will get. Rhubarb is another good buy with prices fairly cheap. Potatoes continue a good buy, with the first Kern County potatoes coming to market. Spinach in good supply and cheap, along with Italian and sunner squash complete the good buys. Fair buys are: artichokes, cauliflower, colory, lettuce, peas, and Mexican tomatoes. Onions are in better supply at ceiling.

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San Francisco Wholesale Markets USDA FOOD BULLETIN From Federal-State Market News Service U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

#### DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - Production and receipts of butter have been at such low levels that slight gains have been unnoticeable in trade channels. With the usual seasonal increase in milk production and restriction of the use of butterfat in the manufacture of ice cream and whipping cream, distributors are looking for a larger supply, possibly as early as May 1.

Eggs - Despite reports that feed shortages are causing producers to reduce their laying flocks, egg receipts at packing plants are approximately equal to those of a year ago. There are plenty of eggs of all grades at unchanged prices of -Grade A Large  $40\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , Mediums  $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$  and Smalls  $33\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

Poultry - On the live poultry market increased marketing of Leghorn hens, together with a limited demand for this class of fowl, saw prices drop 2 to  $\frac{2}{2}\phi$  on all sizes. Moderate supplies of young chickens continue to be in strong demand.

#### MEAT

Beef - Not too much beef available is the picture this week. The finishing up of the fed season on cattle and the beginning of the new grass season found most slaughterers cautious, as replacement costs on live cattle were higher and offerings insufficient to meet requests. Practically no firm operated to capacity on becf.

Lamb - The last week's supply of lamb (mostly Spring lambs) was above normal with more than twice as many head received on the wholesale market as were received the previous week. The bulk of supply was Good and Choice grades with a sharp reduction in Commercial and Utility grades.

Pork - With a limited hog slaughter and orders being filled on a reduced quota basis, the supply of fresh pork cuts this week was not big enough to go around. On the encouraging side was a better supply of bacon.

#### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Avocados are in good supply at slightly lower prices and top the list of fruit buys. Grapefruit is about the only second choice buy at slightly below ceiling prices, since oranges and apples are scarce. Strawberries are light in supply and still high.

About as cheap as it will get, asparagus can now be classed a good buy. Lettuce in plentiful supply is a good buy, as well as spinach and all soft squash, which is cheep, while potatoes remain in the good-buy group. Fair buys include: Artichokes in heavier supply and lower priced, cauliflower, celery, and peas in moderate supply at unchanged prices. Dry onions are now obtainable without difficulty. Tomatoes remain at ceiling. Black Valentine beans and Golden Cross sweet corn from Texas are new arrivals on the market this week, but of course fall in the luxury class.

April 23, 1946

April 30, 1946

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San Francisco Wholesale Markets USDA FOOD BULLETIN From Federal-State Market News Service U. S. Dept. of Agriculture

# DUE: U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ABRICULTURE

### DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - There is nothing outstanding to report on the butter situation. Production is at a record low and most retail stores are without supplies most of the

Eggs - Although the peak of production has passed, egg receipts at country packing plants are on an upward trend. Reason - 13% fewer eggs were set in hatcheries on the West Coast during the period April 1 to 15 than were set a year ago. With no change in prices, top grades continue to move into storage.

Poultry - Except for fryers and roasters, which are still scarce, poultry receipts have been adequate to meet the moderate after-Easter demand. Dragging on the market are small size Leghorn fowl with prices 6 to 7¢ below ceiling. Large size Leghorn fowl are in better demand as are old hen turkeys at F.O.B. San Francisco price of  $39\frac{1}{2}\phi$  and  $42\phi$  to retailers.

Beef - No increase in beef supply. The total head of cattle received on the market this past week was 200 less than for the previous week. Steer and heifer beef made up the bulk of slaughter on a wide range of quality of mostly Good to Commercial grades.

Lamb - With sheep and lamb receipts 1700 head above those of the week before, a liberal slaughter of lamb was the week's feature. Good and Choice quality grades predominated.

Pork - Fewer hog receipts this week saw fresh pork cuts in very light supply, while demand continued good.

#### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Plentiful supplies of grapefruit, more spring strawberries, and more oranges in sight bring with them a more cheerful tone to fruit news. May I to II has been designated as a period in which to "EAT MORE GRAPEFRUIT," which is now abundant and contains that essential vitamin C. With a change in ceiling price due May 1st, wo can look for more oranges, probably in moderate supply, and that's good news. Strawberry supplies have been steadily increasing along with a 50¢ to \$1.00 per tray price drop, and scheduled to go lower. Avocados continue to be plantiful and a good buy.

Good vegetable buys include: Asparagus, slightly higher priced; potatoes, both new and old; and summer and Italian squash. In the fair buy class there are: Artichokes in moderate to fairly heavy supply, cabbage slightly lower in price, cauliflower, celery in liberal supply at moderate price, lettuce, peas, smallsized tomatoes. Spinach is a little bit more expensive. Coachella & Imperial tomatoes are on a downward price movement. Onions are quite plentiful now. Sweet potatoes are scarce. Toxas Golden Cross & Coachella white corn, along with fieldgrown Texas cucumbers and Black Valentine beans, is a luxury still.

